Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00419 01 OF 02 161149Z

13
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-01 INR-05 IO-10

L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05

AECE-00 (ISO) W
---------- 030474
P R 161027Z NOV 74
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0626
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0419

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: NOV 13 AD HOC GROUP DISCUSSION
OF NOV 14 WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENT

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. AT ITS NOV 13 MEETING, THE AD HOC GROUP (AHG) APPROVED THE TEXT OF THE NOV 14 WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENT, WHICH CONTAINS A COMPREHENSIVE CRITIQUE OF THE EASTERN INITIAL STEP REDUCTION PROPOSAL. AGREEMENT ON THE TEXT RESULTED FROM UK REP'S READINESS, AFTER RECEIVING FRESH INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON, TO DROP BRITISH BRACKETS ON THE PASSAGE IN WORKING GROUP DRAFT WHICH TERMED EASTERN PROPOSAL "UNACCEPTABLE" BECAUSE "IT DOES NOT PROVIDE AN ACCEPTABLE GOAL FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS." AHG
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00419 01 OF 02 161149Z

ALSO APPROVED POST-PLENARY STATEMENT TO PRESS, WHICH MAKES

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

NO REFERENCE TO POSITIVE ASPECTS OF EASTERN PROPOSAL.
END SUMMARY.

NOVEMBER 14 PLENARY STATEMENT

2. THE FAIRLY SMOOTH AHG REVIEW OF THE TEXT OF THE NOVEMBER 14. WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENT WAS PRECEDED BY A LENGTHY AND DIFFICULT NOVEMBER 12 WORKING GROUP MEETING. DURING THAT WORKING GROUP DRAFTING SESSION, UK REPS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE UNDER FIRM INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON TO SOFTEN THE TONE OF THE WESTERN STATEMENT, TO REMOVE RHETORICAL FLOURISHES AND FRANK "INFORMAL MEETING" TYPE LANGUAGE, TO AVOID CATEGORICAL LANGUAGE ABOUT THE UN-ACCEPTABILITY OF THE EASTERN PROPOSAL, AND TO SOFTEN WESTERN INSISTENCE ON (AND STANDARD ALLIED LANGUAGE RE-GARDING) THE END GOAL OF APPROXIMATE PARITY IN GROUND FORCES. AT ONE POINT, THE UK REPS AT THE WORKING GROUP MEETING EVEN WENT SO FAR AS TO QUESTION WHETHER THE EASTERN PROPOSAL WAS REALLY BAD IN ITS "ESSENTIALS." OTHER ALLIED REPS SUPPORTED THE US POSITION ON THE KEY SUB-STANTIVE ISSUES AND ON THE NEED FOR A DEFINITIVE CRITIQUE OF THE EASTERN PROPOSAL. FOLLOWING THE MEETING, UK REP CONFIRMED THAT THE ENTIRE WORKING GROUP DRAFT TEXT WAS BEING CABLED BACK TO LONDON, ALONG WITH REQUEST FOR FRESH INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE AT NOVEMBER 13 AHG MEETING.

3. AS APPROVED BY AHG, NOVEMBER 14 WESTERN PLENARY STATE-MENT BEGINS (AT UK REQUEST) BY NOTING "SOME POSITIVE ASPECTS OF A PROCEDURAL NATURE, WHICH WE WELCOME," BUT THEN GOES ON TO REBUT, VIA POINT BY POINT COMPARISON WITH NOV 8, 1973 DRAFT AGREEMENT, THE EASTERN CLAIM THAT THEIR FIRST STEP PROPOSAL IS A COMPROMISE. THE TEXT ALSO INCLUDES AN ENUMERATION OF NINE SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS TO THE EASTERN PROPOSAL, CONCLUDING WITH THE "BASIC DEFECT THAT IT DOES NOT PROVIDE AN ACCEPTABLE GOAL FOR THESE NEGOTIA-TIONS." THIS PARAGRAPH GOES ON TO NOTE THAT "THE ESTA-BLISHMENT OF APPROXIMATE PARITY IN GROUND FORCES WOULD BE THE ONLY OUTCOME WHICH WE COULD CONSIDER EQUITABLE," AND THEN ADDS THAT THE CATALOG OF OBJECTIONS "MAKE (EASTERN PROPOSAL) UNACCEPTABLE AS A BASIS FOR NEGO-
SECRET

SECRET

TIATIONS. AHG WAS ABLE TO APPROVE TEXT WHEN UK REP (ROSE) AGREED TO THE ABOVE FORMULATIONS AND SEQUENCE OF ARGUMENTATION, WHICH MAKE CLEAR THAT LACK OF "ACCEPTABLE GOAL" IS ONE OF THE SPECIFIC REASONS WHY EASTERN PROPOSAL IS "UNACCEPTABLE AS A BASIS FOR NEG-OTIATIONS." NOV 14 WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENT IS TO BE DELIVERED, IN FRENCH, BY BELGIAN REP ADRIAENSSEN.

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

4. POST-PLENARY ALLIED PRESS COMMENT. FOLLOWING AHG APPROVAL OF WESTERN STATEMENT, UK REP ROSE PROPOSED THAT ALLIED PRESS SPOKESMAN BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE FOLLOWING COMMENT AFTER NOV 14 PLENARY: "TODAY'S WESTERN STATEMENT PRESENTED OUR CONSIDERED VIEWS OF THE LATEST EASTERN PROPOSAL. WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT, ALTHOUGH THE EASTERN PROPOSAL DOES IN A PROCEDURAL SESNSE CONTAIN ONE OR TWO POSITIVE ELEMENTS, IT DOES NOT MEET FUNDAMENTAL WESTERN CONCENRS IN A NUMBER OF RESPECTS."

5. US REP STRONGLY OPPOSED THIS UK TEXT, ASSERTING THAT THE REFERENCE TO "POSITIVE ELEMENTS" WOULD INEVITABLY BE THE ONLY NEWSWORTHY ITEM AND WOULD RESULT IN HEADLINE SAYING, "WEST SEES POSITIVE ELEMENTS IN EASTERN PROPOSAL." US REP STRESSED THAT MAJOR PURPOSE OF NOVEMBER 14 STATEMENT IS TO PRESS EAST TO DROP THEIR PROPOSAL. ALLIES SHOULD BE VIGILANT ABOUT AVOIDING MISLEADING SIGNAL AND THEREBY UNDERMINING EFFECTIVE WESTERN ARGUMENTATION IN THE LAST FOUR INFORMAL MEETINGS. ROSE REPLIED, "WITH FULL AUTHORITY OF MY INSTRUCTIONS," THAT UK DID NOT IN ANY WAY WISH TO SUGGEST THAT EASTERN PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTABLE.

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00419 02 OF 02 161146Z

12
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-05 IO-10

L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05

AECE-00 /085 W
---------- 002135
P R 161027Z NOV 74
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0627
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0419

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

6. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION, ROSE JOINED GROUP CONSENSUS THAT, FOLLOWING NOVEMBER 14 STATEMENT, ALLIED SPOKESMAN COULD COMMENT TO PRESS AS FOLLOWS: "TODAY'S WESTERN STATEMENT PRESENTED OUR CONSIDERED VIEWS OF THE LAST EASTERN PROPOSAL. WE STATED THAT THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE PRESENT EASTERN PROPOSAL DO NOT DIFFER FROM THOSE OF THE EARLIER EASTERN PROPOSALS AND THAT IT THEREFORE DOES NOT MEET DUNDAMENTAL WESTERN CONCERNS."

7. ACTING ITALIAN REP TALIANI SAID ABOVE STATEMENT WAS MINIMUM THAT SHOULD BE SAID BY WEST. HE NOTED LE FIGARO REPORT THAT EASTERN FIRST STEP PROPOSAL PROVIDES FOR REDUCTIONS OF 5,000 EACH BY FRG AND POLAND. TALIANI SAID ALLIES SHOULD ARRANGE THIS WEEK ON A BACKGROUND BASIS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00419 02 OF 02 161146Z

TO BE QUESTIONED BY SELECTED REPORTERS REGARDING MIS-LEADING EASTERN PRESS LEAKS, AND SET RIGHT EASTERN MISREPRESENTATIONS TO THE EFFECT THAT BASIC WESTERN POINTS HAD BEEN MET. UK AND FRG REPS SAID THEY ALREADY HAD EN-GAGED IN THIS PRACTICE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR NATIONAL PRESSES. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION, AHG AGREED THAT ALLIED REPS SHOULD CONTINUE TO CORRECT EASTERN MIS-REPRESENTATION THROUGH BACKGROUNDERS WITH KEY REPORTERS, BUT, IN ORDER TO AVOID ASTERN CHARGES OF VIOLATING CONFIDENTIALITY RULE, CONCLUDED THAT ALLIED SPOKESMAN SHOULD NOT GO INTO DETAILS OF FIRST STEP PROPOSAL WITH PRESS IN HIS REGULAR POST PLENARY SESSION ON NOV 14.RESOR

SECRET

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MBFR, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MBFRV00419
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740334-0612, D740331-1104
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741137/aaaabevt.tel
Line Count: 209
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <24 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: NOV 13 AD HOC GROUP DISCUSSION OF NOV 14 WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENT
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005